

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



the Pastor's corner

When is love real? To find the right answer, we need to ask more questions: How do you know that someone loves you? Is it when they tell you they do? Anyone can say that. Is it when they buy you gifts? Not every gift comes from the heart. Is it when they want to be around you to the exclusion of others? Maybe they are gaining something for themselves from that closeness. On the other hand, how do you know that you love God? Is it by your faith tradition, like being a Christian? Identifying with a religion does not mean love for God. Is it by going to Church and praying all the time? No, even Jesus said, "This people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me" (Matt 15:8), because a disguise for love is easy on the lips. Sometimes, we mistake our liking or feelings towards people for love. Sometimes, we confuse religious activities with love for God. Love is beyond seasonal excitement and activities. When love is genuine, there are no conditions; it comes from a heart of sacrifice, which is the true measure of love. In other words, love, where it is real, is always active and sacrificial, not beneficial. But not everybody has the same point of view, for everyone thinks he knows everything about love, but not everyone agrees on what love really is. Perhaps this is why writing about romantic love in his famous novel, *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*, the English novelist, Louis de Bernières, states: "Love is not breathlessness. It is not excitement. It is not the promulgation of eternal passion. That is just being-in-love, which any fool can do. Love itself is what is left over when being-in-love has burned away." And Advent has something to tell us about this fact. So open your eyes to see what this secular world fails to perceive these days, and then your Advent preparation for Christmas will take on a deeper spiritual meaning. And next week, just before Christmas, I will look at this short and sweet word strictly from our Christian perspective.

*Fr. Slawek*

### **CHRISTMAS MASSES**

**( Arrive 1/2 hr. before First come First Seated)**

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Mass 6 p.m.

Mass 8 p.m.

**Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

**Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>**

**No Mass**

### **NEW YEAR'S MASSES**

**Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

Mass 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Mass 6 p.m.

**Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

Holy Day of Obligation

Mass 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

**Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**No Mass**

# DECEMBER 17, 2023

## ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS

### Reception of Holy Communion

It has come to my attention that some people, receiving on the hand, carry the Sacred Host back to their seats. This is forbidden. Please be sure to consume Jesus, truly present in the Sacred Host, right after you receive Him. You must consume the Host in the front of the church, right after receiving. There are people who wish to steal consecrated Hosts for the sake of rituals. If you see anyone walking away without having consumed the Sacred Host please alert one of the Ushers, the Sacristan—Anthony or Fr. Slawek.

## CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in January 2024 & support the bulletin service. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service.

Call Liturgical Publications at 905-624-4422



## ARE YOU MOVING? OR HAVE YOU ALREADY MOVED?

Please contact the parish office so your records can be updated. Thank you.

## 2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Assigned envelopes are available for pick up at the back table in the church. New envelope can be pick up from the Parish office during office hours.

**Please use 2024 envelopes starting Jan. 1.** Print your full name, address, phone number and donation clearly on the envelope for the month so the Parish office can record the number to your name.

If you have a change of address please list it on your envelope or notify the office.

## SUNDAY MISSAL

Are available for purchase from the parish office. Cost \$ 6.00

Monday -Thursday  
8:30 a.m.—1 p.m.

Limited quantity available



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Tuesday, December 19

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Julia Ciciretto req. by Toni Frattoroli.

### Wednesday, December 20

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Dionesio Diapera req. by A. Diapera.

### Thursday, December 21

9 a.m. Private Intentions.

### Friday, December 22

9 a.m. Intentions of thanksgiving req. by Lulu..

### Saturday, December 23

4:30 p.m. Repose of the soul of Antonia Agiot & Enrique Jamuyot Sr. req. by Ruben & Mair Jamuyot & family.

### Sunday, December 24

9 a.m. Intentions of all Parishioners.

11 a.m. Intentions of thanksgiving req. by the Catequista family.

## COFFEE & TEA & SNACKS SOCIAL



### Wednesday, December 20, 2023

After the 9 a.m. Mass  
in the Parish Basement

The Social will resume  
**Wednesday, January 3, 2024**  
After the 9 a.m. Mass  
in the Parish Basement

**All parishioners welcome**

## YOUR HEALTH

As cold and flu season approaches, to ensure the health of the entire community, parishioners are encouraged to stay home from Mass and parish functions if they are experiencing symptoms of the flu virus, colds, etc. Respect and concern for the common good takes precedence. Thank you for your cooperation! To minimize risks please use the hand sanitizers that are located at each entrance!