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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 2, 2018

I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the land.
— *Jeremiah 33:15*

Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Anthony Onyekwe
Administrative/Financial Secretary:
 Mary Alyce Fiechtl
DRE: Lois Freeland
Facilities Management: Joey Wall
Web Page:
<http://saintandrewcatholicchurch.org/>
E mail Address: saintandrewlex@outlook.com
Facebook.com: Saint Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church

Mass Intentions:

December 1st: Parishioners of St Andrew and St Regina
 December 2nd: Cathy Goodman + by Mr & Mrs Mark Bartel
 December 7th: Harold Segerson +
 December 8th: Parishioners of St Andrew and St Regina
 December 9th: Brad Elliott + by Mr & Mrs Mark Bartel

WEEKLY OFFERING

Nov 25th
Budget \$2300
Actual \$938
Short \$1362

December 9, 2018

Lectors — Jean Stevens
Gift Bearers — Mr & Mrs Joe Bobak
Eucharistic Ministers — Carmen McDaniel, Stan Stevens, Elaine Doner
Servers — Matthew Carlson, Carlos Limon
Sacristans — Carmen McDaniel
Altar Linens — Eleanor Michie & Khuyen Segerson
Ushers — Men of the Parish



THE PROMISE OF JUSTICE

We are in fairly good company when we ask God for justice. Often enough we hear and agree with the lament of the people of Israel asking God why the wicked prosper. However, when we call out for justice, we usually want someone to get his or her comeuppance. God's justice is something other than this, of course. God's justice comprises a wonderful rightness between God and humankind.

Today, Jeremiah looks ahead to a time when a just one will sprout from the shorn-off stump of Jesse of the house and family of David. Life was not fair in Jeremiah's time. Israel's kings held the promise of God's fidelity, but it was difficult to see how God's promise could be realized through them.

Nevertheless, Jeremiah lifts his voice and announces that the Promised One will come. Luke's Gospel echoes that announcement, and Paul is filled with sturdy encouragement. And so Advent begins with a promise.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Occasionally, someone raises a surprised complaint that while Christmas arrives on Santa's sleigh at the Macy's parade on Thanksgiving Day, the Church doesn't catch on too fast. They may even say that Advent is a new-fangled idea. Not so. To trace its beginnings, we have to go back to the fourth or fifth century in France (then Gaul), when Epiphany was the favored day, next to Easter, for baptism. The old pagan structures of Rome were collapsing then, and many people sought to be baptized. Since adults always prepared for baptism by fasting, folks counted back a few weeks for a kind of retreat. Before too long, bishops were advising everyone to attend church frequently beginning on December 17. Soon, artists were imagining ways of expressing the Advent mystery, and in Italy this gave rise to beautiful mosaics of empty thrones awaiting the arrival of the Lord of all creation.

Advent as we know it develops on two separate tracks: the first having to do with our spiritual preparation for celebrating the Christmas feast, and the second having to do with the way this is organized and expressed in the liturgical readings and prayers every day of the season.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Special Collection

Retirement Fund for Religious
 December 9th

TODAY'S READINGS FOR YEAR C

First Reading — The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

Psalm — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).
Second Reading — Abound in love for one another and for all (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

Gospel — Stand erect and raise your heads; your redemption is at hand (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Parishioners

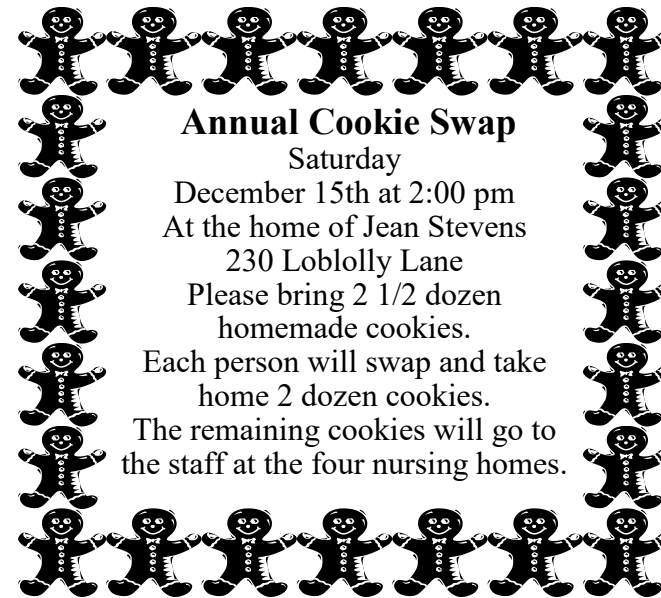
Grant Adams, Jody Adams, Mark Green, Ethel Huffman, Jacob Palomino, Khuyen Segerson, Ted & Jeanette Thiele, Joe & Stella York

Relatives

Thomas & Kelli Blankenship, Zula Doyle, Nancy Gambino, Fiona Green, Christine Hart and the twin boys Benjamin and Theodore, Lisa Michelle Kirkpatrick, Nickolas Kirkpatrick, Asa McCarty, Paul Montgomery, Andrew Morlan, Emily Ernst Royal, Richard Scran, Kevin Young

Friends

Susi Bickerstaff, Emma Cupples, Frank DeLuca, Emily Evans, Eddie Michaels, The Jeff Melton Family, Joseph Smile, Dr. Laurie Pearlman, Fr Robert Ponticello



Annual Cookie Swap

Saturday
 December 15th at 2:00 pm
 At the home of Jean Stevens
 230 Loblolly Lane
 Please bring 2 1/2 dozen
 homemade cookies.

Each person will swap and take home 2 dozen cookies.
 The remaining cookies will go to the staff at the four nursing homes.

THE THREE COMINGS OF ADVENT

There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know: His coming to humankind, His coming into humankind, and His coming against humankind.

—St. Bernard: *Third Sermon for Advent*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; 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 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
 Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 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: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
 Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6



Mass Schedule

Monday: 9:00 am
Wednesday: 11:30 am
Thursday: 9:00 am
First Friday: 9:00-11:30 am
 Adoration and Mass at 11:30 am
Immaculate Conception on Saturday: 9:00 am
Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am

Comin Events

December 3rd: Mass at 9:00 am. The office is closed.
 December 6th: Advent Penance Service at St Andrew at 6:00 pm
 December 7th: First Friday adoration from 9:00-11:30, with Mass at 11:30 am
 December 8th: Feast of the Immaculate Conception with Mass at 9:00 am. This is a holy day of obligation.
 December 9th: After Mass, will the men of the parish please help with bringing down the trees from the attic and setting up the Nativity set outside.
 December 12th: Our Lady of Guadalupe with a Spanish Mass at 6:30 pm
 December 16th: PRE Christmas Program followed by our Christmas Potluck brunch.